

## **DO I HAVE TO ANSWER POLICE QUESTIONS?**

If you are stopped and questioned by the police, or they talk to you at a protest, you have the right **NOT** to respond, unless you are engaging in “anti-social” behaviour (causing, or likely to cause “harassment, alarm or distress”). You shouldn’t provide false information to the police, as this is a criminal offence. You can’t be searched or arrested just because you lawfully refused to answer police questions.

## **DO I HAVE THE RIGHT TO PROTEST?**

Yes. Your right to protest is a protected by the Human Rights Act and can only be lawfully restricted by the police for certain specified purposes (such as preventing crime or disorder) and in a way that is proportionate. For more information and guidance on organising a protest, police powers to restrict or prohibit protests, and your rights if arrested, go to [libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-and-information](https://libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-and-information) and select the topic of ‘protest’, or use the QR code.

**LIBERTY**



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*This information was correct as of 3 March 2022.*

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM ARRESTED?

Before arresting you the police should explain that you're being arrested and why. If you're arrested, say "**NO COMMENT**" to all questions and do **NOT** accept a caution until you have legal advice. Seek advice from a solicitor with expertise in protest law (see below). You have the right to:

- tell someone about your arrest
- an interpreter if English isn't your first language
- an appropriate adult if you're under 18 or a vulnerable person

You are **NOT** legally required to share your nationality or immigration status when arrested, although police may check this if they suspect you are not a British citizen. For guidance on the implications of being arrested at a protest, see: [jcw.org.uk/immigration-advice-for-protestors](http://jcw.org.uk/immigration-advice-for-protestors)

## SOLICITORS OFFERING FREE 24 HOUR ADVICE & LEGAL OBSERVERS:

**ITN SOLICITORS** 020 3909 8100

**HODGE JONES & ALLEN** 0844 848 0222

**KELLYS** 01273 674 898 / 0800 387 463

**COMMONS** 020 3865 5403

**BINDMANS** 020 7305 5638

**MTC** 07956 308 127

**BPLS** @blkprotestlegal / blackprotestlegal@protonmail.com

**GBC** @GBCManchester / 07761 911 121 / manchestergbc@riseup.net